

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) An electronic device for generating a clock signal for an integrated circuit, the device comprising:

at least two clock generation elements configured to generate a single clock signal at a clock output in response to an input signal and to operate in a mutually exclusive manner, the outputs of said clock generation elements being selectively connectable to said clock output;

means for receiving a data pattern representative of a sequence of frequencies at which said clock signal is required to be generated;

means for causing a clock generation element other than the clock generation element generating the clock signal at the immediately previous frequency in said sequence to generate a clock signal at a next frequency in said sequence;

means for causing the clock signal at the immediately previous frequency in said sequence to be disconnected from said clock output; and

means for causing the clock signal at the next frequency in said sequence to be connected to said clock output;

wherein the clock generation element being caused to generate a clock signal at each frequency in said sequence is independent of the value of said frequency.

2. (previously presented) The electronic device as recited in claim 1, wherein the clock signal at the immediately previous frequency in said sequence is caused to be disconnected from said clock output prior to connection of the clock signal at the next frequency in the sequence to said clock output.

3. (previously presented) The electronic device as recited in claim 1, wherein generation of the clock signal at said next frequency in said sequence is commenced prior to disconnection of the clock signal at the immediately previous frequency in the sequence from the clock output.
4. (previously presented) The electronic device as recited in claim 1, wherein connection of the clock signal at the next frequency in said sequence to said clock output is caused to occur when said clock signal is low.
5. (previously presented) The electronic device as recited in claim 1, wherein disconnection of the clock signal at said immediately previous frequency in said sequence from said clock output is caused to occur when said clock signal is low.
6. (previously presented) The electronic device as recited in claim 1, wherein said at least two clock generation elements comprise programmable ring oscillators.
7. (previously presented) The electronic device as recited in claim 6, comprising a variable programmable delay element for receiving data representative of the duration of a clock cycle of each frequency in said sequence.
8. (previously presented) The electronic device as recited in claim 7, wherein said variable programmable delay element causes the respective clock generation element to generate a clock signal at the required frequency.
9. (previously presented) The electronic device as recited in claim 1, wherein said data pattern is derived from, or comprises, a series of requests for a change of frequency of said clock signal.
10. (previously presented) The electronic device as recited in claim 9, further comprising an arbiter for determining the order in which said requests are to be effected.

11. (previously presented) An electronic device according to claim 10, wherein said arbiter orders said requests for action on a first-in-first-out basis.

12. (previously presented) The electronic device as recited in claim 11, wherein if two requests are received at substantially the same time, the arbiter is arranged to randomly select the order in which action is taken on these two requests.

13. (previously presented) The electronic device as recited in claim 1, further comprising an event controller for controlling the order in which said clock generation elements are caused to commence and cease generating a clock signal and/or the order in which said clock signals are connected and disconnected from said clock output.

14. (previously presented) The electronic device as recited in claim 9, arranged and configured to temporarily disconnect all of the clock generation elements from the clock output, in response to a request to do so.

15. (previously presented) A method of generating a clock signal for an integrated circuit, the method comprising:

- providing at least two clock generation elements arranged and configured to generate a single clock signal at a clock output in response to an input signal and to operate in a mutually exclusive manner, the outputs of said clock generation elements being selectively connectable to said clock output;

- receiving a data pattern representative of a sequence of frequencies at which said clock signal is required to be generated;

- receiving data representative of the next frequency in said sequence;

- causing a clock generation element other than the clock generation element generating the clock signal at the immediately previous frequency in said sequence to generate a clock signal at said next frequency;

- causing the clock signal at the immediately previous frequency in said sequence to be disconnected from said clock output; and

- causing the clock signal at the next frequency in said sequence to be connected to

said clock output;

wherein the clock generation element being caused to generate a clock signal at each frequency in said sequence is independent of the value of said frequency.

16. (previously presented) A method of manufacturing an electronic device as recited in claim 1.

17. (previously presented) A clock signal generated with an electronic device as recited in claim 1.

18. (previously presented) A clock signal generated by a method as recited in claim 15.